

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claim 10 without prejudice or disclaimer, AMEND claims 1, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, and ADD new claims 21-24 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electrode unit comprising:

a first electrode plate having a first electrode uncoated portion on at least one side of a first electrode collector coated with at least a first electrode active material;

a second electrode plate having a second electrode uncoated portion on at least one side of a second electrode collector coated with at least a second electrode active material; and

a separator interposed between the first electrode plate and the second electrode plate, wherein a folded portion is provided on at least one edge of at least one of the first electrode plate and the second electrode plate so as to have uncoated portions of a-the same electrode plate face each other.

2. (ORIGINAL) The electrode unit of claim 1, wherein the folded portion has an insulating tape attached thereto.

3. (ORIGINAL) The electrode unit of claim 1, wherein the folded portion is provided at the uncoated portion of either the first or the second electrode plate.

4. (ORIGINAL) The electrode unit of claim 1, wherein the folded portion is provided at a winding start portion of either the first or the second electrode plate.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The electrode unit of claim 1, wherein the folded portion is folded such that a burr portion at an edge of either the first or the second electrode collector contacts the electrode collector of a same polarity.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The electrode unit of claim 1, wherein the folded portion of the second electrode plate is positioned ~~at one side of~~ to overlie at least a portion of the first electrode plate where the first electrode tab is disposed, wherein the separator is interposed between the folded portion and the first electrode plate.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The electrode unit of claim 6, further comprising an insulating tape attached to a portion of the second electrode plate corresponding to a location of the first electrode tab of the first electrode plate.

8. (ORIGINAL) The electrode unit of claim 1, wherein a length of the second electrode uncoated portion positioned at the innermost part of the electrode unit is 5 to 15 mm.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A secondary battery comprising:
an electrode unit having a first electrode plate having a first electrode uncoated portion on at least one side of a first electrode collector coated with at least a first electrode active material, a second electrode plate having a second electrode uncoated portion on at least one side of a second electrode collector coated with at least a second electrode active material, and a separator interposed between the first electrode plate and the second electrode plate; and
a case accommodating the electrode unit to be sealed, and having a terminal portion electrically connected to the electrode unit, wherein a folded portion is provided at the uncoated portion of either the first or the second electrode plate to have uncoated portions of the electrode plate face each other.

10. (CANCELLED)

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The secondary battery of claim 409, wherein the folded portion is provided at a winding start portion of either the first or the second electrode plate.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The secondary battery of claim 409, wherein the folded portion is folded such that a burr portion at an edge of either the first or the second electrode collector contacts the electrode collector of a same polarity.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The secondary battery of claim 409, wherein the folded

portion of the second electrode plate is positioned ~~at one side of~~ to overlie at least a portion of the first electrode plate where the first electrode tab is disposed, wherein the separator is interposed between the folded portion and the first electrode plate.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The secondary battery of claim 13, further comprising an insulating tape attached to a portion of the second electrode plate corresponding to a location of the first electrode tab of the first electrode plate.

15. (ORIGINAL) The secondary battery of claim 9, wherein a length of the second electrode uncoated portion positioned at the innermost part of the electrode unit is 5 to 15 mm.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The secondary battery of claim 109, wherein the folded portion has an insulating tape attached thereto.

17. (ORIGINAL) The electrode unit of claim 1, wherein the first electrode plate is a negative electrode plate having a first electrode collector comprising a metal foil.

18. (ORIGINAL) The secondary battery of claim 9, wherein the first electrode plate is a negative electrode plate having a first electrode collector comprising a metal foil.

19. (ORIGINAL) The electrode unit of claim 1, wherein the first electrode active material comprises a carbon material.

20. (ORIGINAL) The secondary battery of claim 9, wherein the first electrode active material comprises a carbon material.

21. (NEW) The electrode unit of claim 1, wherein the folded portion is provided on one of the first electrode plate and the second electrode plate where the uncoated portions are formed on both sides of the electrode plate.

22. (NEW) The electrode unit of claim 1, wherein the folded portion is provided on one of the first electrode plate and the second electrode plate where the uncoated portion of the first electrode plate and the uncoated portion of the second electrode plate face each other.

23. (NEW) The secondary battery of claim 9, wherein the folded portion is provided on one of the first electrode plate and the second electrode plate where the uncoated portions are formed on both sides of the electrode plate.

24. (NEW) The secondary battery of claim 9, wherein the folded portion is provided on one of the first electrode plate and the second electrode plate where the uncoated portion of the first electrode plate and the uncoated portion of the second electrode plate face each other.